

**REMARKS**

Claims 68-71 and 73-75 remain pending in the application.

Applicant filed a Request For Continued Examination of the present application on August 8, 2005 in order to have references considered by the Examiner. Such references had previously been made of record in the application with an Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 25, 2004, as explained in a "Request to Have a Previously-Filed Information Disclosure Statement Considered" that applicant filed on June 27, 2005 pertaining to the present application. The Office Communication of August 10, 2005 appears to be in response to applicant's "Request to Have a Previously-Filed Information Disclosure Statement Considered", and includes an Examiner-initialed copy of a form PTO-1449 listing the references that applicant had provided with the Information Disclosure Statement of October 25, 2004.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references of such Information Disclosure Statement, and for indicating the allowability of the pending claims over such references. Unfortunately, the issue fee payment deadline for the present application was coming due on August 10, 2005, and as applicant had not received indication from the Patent Office that further action was being taken on the application, applicant filed the Request For Continued Examination of August 8, 2005 to ensure that the references would be considered by the Patent Office. Applicant received the August 10, 2005 Office Communication subsequent to applicant's filing of the Request For Continued Examination on August 8, 2005.

It appears that the August 10, 2005 Office Communication addresses all of the issues that prompted applicant's filing of the Request For Continued Examination, and thus the Request For Continued Examination was, in hindsight, unnecessary.

In light of the Examiner's indication in the Office Communication of August 10, 2005 of the allowability of the pending claims 68-71 and 73-75 over the references submitted with the Request For Continued Examination filing, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's action in response to the Request For Continued Examination be a Notice of Allowance.

Applicant believes that even though the Office Communication of August 10, 2005 was mailed after Applicant's filing of the Request For Continued Examination, such is not to be considered a Patent Office response to the Request For Continued Examination filed August 8, 2005 since the Communication specifically states that it is responsive to a Request For Continued Examination that was filed on March 28, 2005. Applicant therefore awaits official PTO response to the Request For Continued Examination filed August 8, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 18, 2005

By: 

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